

Application of The Berkshire Gas Company, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, App. §§ 2-1 through 2-10 and 220 C.M.R. §§ 7.00 et seq., for approval of its proposed operating budget and applicable monthly surcharge for the Residential Energy Conservation Service program for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION

The Berkshire Gas Company requests approval from the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") of its operating budget and applicable monthly surcharge for its Residential Energy Conservation Service ("RCS") Program, for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. The calculations, data, and reasons supporting this charge are available for public inspection at the Department.

The Department invites public comment on this matter. Any person who desires to file written comments or request a public hearing in this matter, shall submit an original and three (3) copies of such written comments, or petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding, with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) Friday, November 26, 2004.

Any person who desires to participate in this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) Friday, November 26, 2004. A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, and shall include a request for a hearing if a hearing is desired. Receipt by the Department -- not mailing -- constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late-filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written comments also should be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us; or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding [D.T.E. 04-101], (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix) or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's web site: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

D.T.E. 04-101

November 8, 2004

Application of The Berkshire Gas Company, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, App. §§ 2-1 through 2-10 and 220 C.M.R. §§ 7.00 et seq., for approval of its proposed operating budget and applicable monthly surcharge for the Residential Energy Conservation Service program for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005.

Berkshire Gas Company, is required to give notice of said request for public comment and participation by publication hereof once at least seven (7) days prior to the close of the public comment period in the Berkshire Eagle. The Petitioner is also required to mail a copy of this notice at least seven (7) days prior to the close of the comment period to any person who has intervened in the prior two annual RCS proceedings.

The Petitioner is also required to make return of service and proof of publication at the time of the close of the comment period.

By Order of the Department,

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary